



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission
222 Paul Scannell Drive • San Mateo, CA 94402
Minutes of the Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commission
April 25, 2023 | 5:15-7:15 pm
College of San Mateo College Heights Conf. Room and Zoom
MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Monroe Labouisse, Chair; Wesley Liu, Co-Vice Chair Administration; Ameya Nori, Co-Vice Chair Administration; Karin Huber-Levy, Vice Chair Membership; Paul Bocanegra; Allen Bustos; Sathvik Nori; Johanna Rasmussen; Susan Swope; Melissa Wilson.

Commissioners Absent: Appollonia “Dee” Uhila

Partners and Stakeholders Present:

Ron Rayes, Juvenile Private Defender
John Keene, Chief Probation Officer
Jehan Clark, Superintendent Probation
Michael Leon, Deputy Chief Probation Officer
Chris Abalos, Deputy Chief Probation Officer
Bonnie MacAskill, Asst. Chief Probation Officer
Moniay Wade, Asst. Deputy Chief Probation Officer
Jennifer Martinez- Juvenile & Family Specialist,
Redwood City PD
Aurora Pena, Behavioral Health & Recovery Services
Kate Hiester, FLY

Nadia Hahn, District Attorney’s Office
Ligia Andrade Zúñiga– SMUHSD Board of Trustees,
Liaison - SMC Commission on Disabilities
Chelsea Bonini, Liaison - SMC Commission on
Disabilities; Trustee, SMC Board of Education
John Nibbelin, SMC County Counsel
Judith Holiber, SMC Chief County Counsel
Peter Cruz, SMC Deputy County Counsel
Shelly Johnson, SMC Office of Education
Zahara Agarwal, Youth Commission Liaison
Ashley Dwarshuis – Art of Yoga Project

Translation Services: Kimberly Larios, Kennia Cobos

Community Members: Clara Jaeckel, Becca Kieler, Nancy Goodban, Whitney Genevro, Leah Worthington, Mona Shah, Beth von Emster (ACLU), Heather Hopkins, Jennifer Blanco.

I. Preliminary Business

- a. Call to Order:** Chair Labouisse called the meeting to order at 5:17 p.m.
- b. Roll Call and Establish Quorum:** A quorum was established at 5:18 p.m.
- c. Action for Approval of March 29, 2023 Minutes:** no changes to attached minutes
MOTION: Swope /SECOND: Rasmussen
AYES (VOICE VOTE): All present
NOES: none ABSTAIN: none
MOTION PASSED
- d. Action to Set Agenda for April 25, 2023:** no changes to the attached agenda.
MOTION: Liu /SECOND: Wilson
AYES (VOICE VOTE): All present
NOES: none ABSTAIN: none
MOTION PASSED.



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II. Oral Communications (Public Comment):

- a. Community member Clara Jaeckel emphasized the importance for youth at YSC to have full access to programs and services required by law, starting with those identified in the JJDPC Inspections Report, to set them up for future success. She urged that these recommendations be put into practice as soon as possible.
- b. Community Member Nancy Goodban shared that she was one of a group of 10 people who met with DA Wagstaffe on April 14 to request that he stop transferring youth to adult court. This is supported by the Democratic party of San Mateo and 15 other organizations in our county, representing the faith community, In Our Care, ACLU, People Power, Democracy for America, and Silicon Valley De-Bug. It is not acceptable to hide behind the excuse that SMC cannot provide these youth with the rehabilitation services required by law.
- c. Community Member Becca Kieler, co-founder of In Our Care, stated that youth need to be held accountable for their actions, but science supports idea that youth are amenable to rehabilitation and restorative justice; recidivism rates are higher for youth sentenced in adult court. The lack of services through probation is not the fault of the youth, it is our legal and moral obligation to take care of them. She asks Chief Keene to tell the community what is needed to make this happen.

III. Updates from System Partners:

a. Private Defender (Rayes)

There were 40 new cases referred to their department, 10 of which were alleged 707(b) offenses (serious juvenile offenses), and 6 of those were probation violations. With regard to this legislative cycle, SB 448 (Promoting Family Connections for Youth in Foster Care), which has particular importance to detention of out of county youth, is progressing and is now with Senate Appropriations Committee.

b. Office of Education (Johnson)

Ms Johnson, Principal of Court & Community Schools, reported that the Office of Education are finalizing strategic planning which will guide LCAP, SIPSA and WASP planning for the upcoming school year; and as part of this will assess what is working/not working for students. She provided the meeting with an overview of key metrics and reported on current and



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planned programming to the end of the school year (June 2), through the summer (including credit recovery camps to facilitate graduation on June 30), and into fall (including in-person art and English 105 programs provided to Court Schools through Project Change).

c. Probation (Clark):

Ms. Stauffer has officially retired, however her position (head of Juvenile Institutions) has not yet been filled. Current stats for Juvenile Institutions:

- i. Diversion/Intake:** overall 318 youth in custody
 - 181 new cases: 134 cases on formal/informal supervision
 - 5 youth with gang orders
- ii. Placement:**
 - 0 youth in placement
 - 3 youth receiving extended foster care services
 - 17 youth on EMP
 - 11 new case referrals
- iii. Top Five Offences:** Battery, Assault and Battery, Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Grand Theft, Firearms
- iv. Juvenile Hall:** 32 youth in facility - 29 males / 2 females / 1 transgender
- v. Camp Kemp:** 4 girls – 3 from SMC / 1 from Sonoma County
- vi. Girls Empowerment Program:** 0

IV. Q&A with Chief John Keene

a. Is there some way to provide a minimal amount of funding from the county so that we can have funding for programs, namely therapists? (Labouisse)

We have restructured our contract to get more funding, however money is not the issue. We do not have enough staff to service the programs.

b. Can you give us an update on how we're using funding to soften Juvenile Hall? (Swope)

I was not supportive of the transition from DJJ to county-level institutions. Counties are being asked to match DJJ programs with less funding. We have been working hard on the 'Reimagine Juvenile Hall' project, especially using recommendations from JJDPC report.



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c. Do you have any further thought on Peer Point with its updated model? (A. Nori)

I am aware and interested, I think it has great potential to be used for Secure Track. Useful in schools.

d. Body scanning equipment replacing strip searching techniques in Sacramento, any plans to implement in San Mateo County? (Huber-Levy)

I am familiar with it but I have not looked into it for application in SMC. It feels like there is great potential for use of this, and I am up for any improvements being made in the facility to minimize trauma. It seems that this is consistent with the natural transition to using biometric technologies to reduce physical interaction in institutions. I will be interested in seeing the results of the next BSCC inspection to understand their assessment of the body scanning technology and Title 12 requirements.

e. How does the budget process work so that we can help youth further? (Rasmussen)

Money is not the issue. We do not have enough staff to service the programs.

f. Why have we had kids in the hall for years without a single certification/trade, what will it take to soften the impact, and send boys to Camp Kemp? (Bocanegra)

We don't know what the future of Camp Kemp is. Girls being in detention is much harsher on families than boys. It is very hard to build something new in this county, board members have discussed this already.

g. Would you consider coming to our meetings on a regular frequency and having a conversation about our relationship? (Wilson)

You are free to talk to us and our staff at any time to ask questions, I am very open about any proposals and about who I am.

h. Do you foresee a way to expand Project Change and the course offerings? (Liu)

We are working with programs to expand the project and the courses offered. We really are committed to the program, using our own funds to improve it through computers and other technology.

i. Current Commission Projects – Updates - TABLED

j. New Updates and Motions - TABLED

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 30, 2023